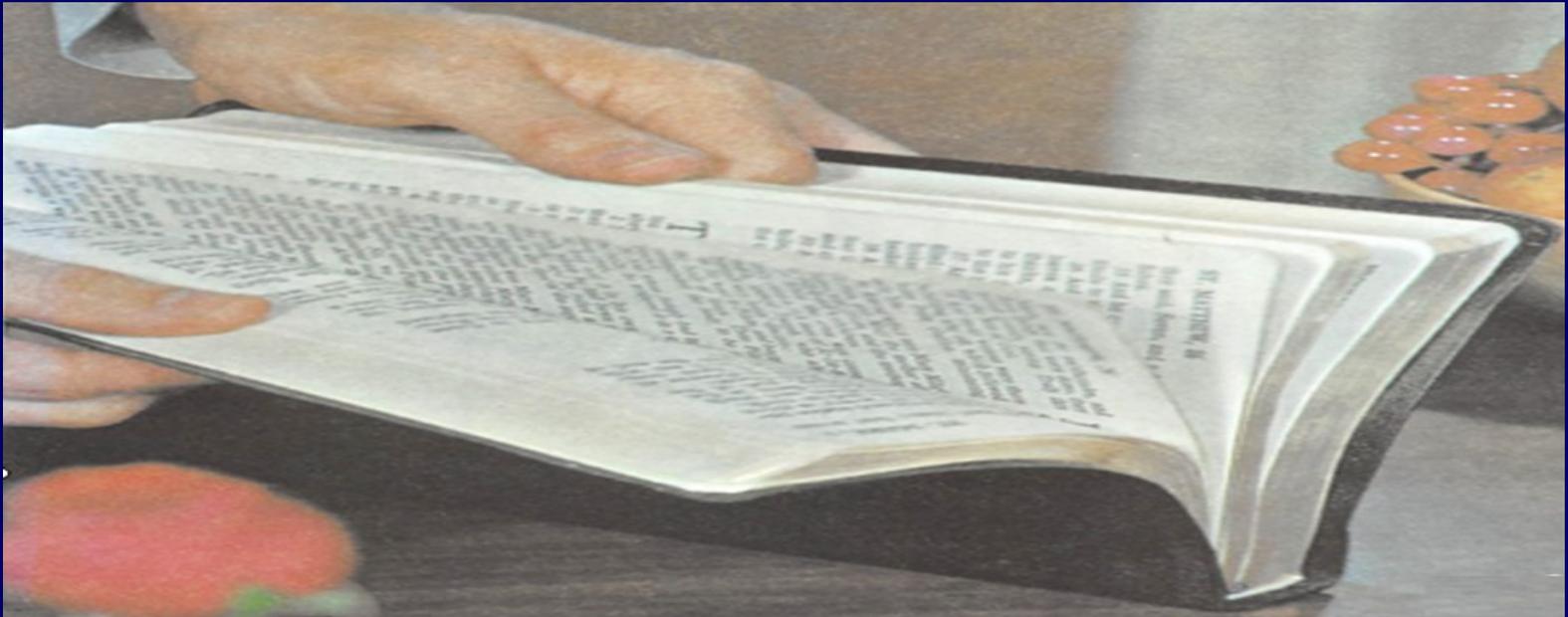


# Visualized Bible Study

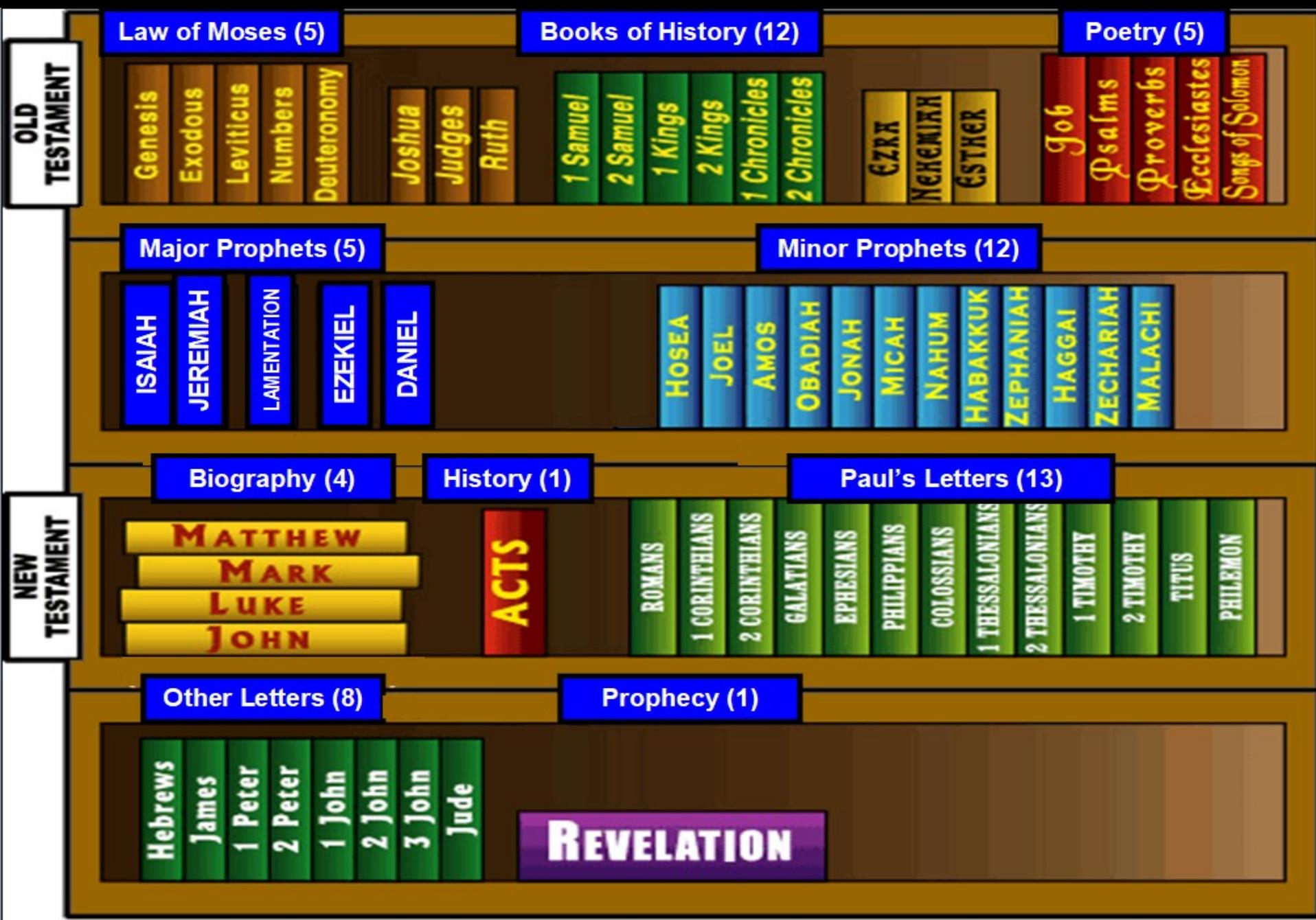
## Part 3-a

### The Christian Age.



Updated by  
Graeme Morrison  
<https://www.graemebibleresources.com>

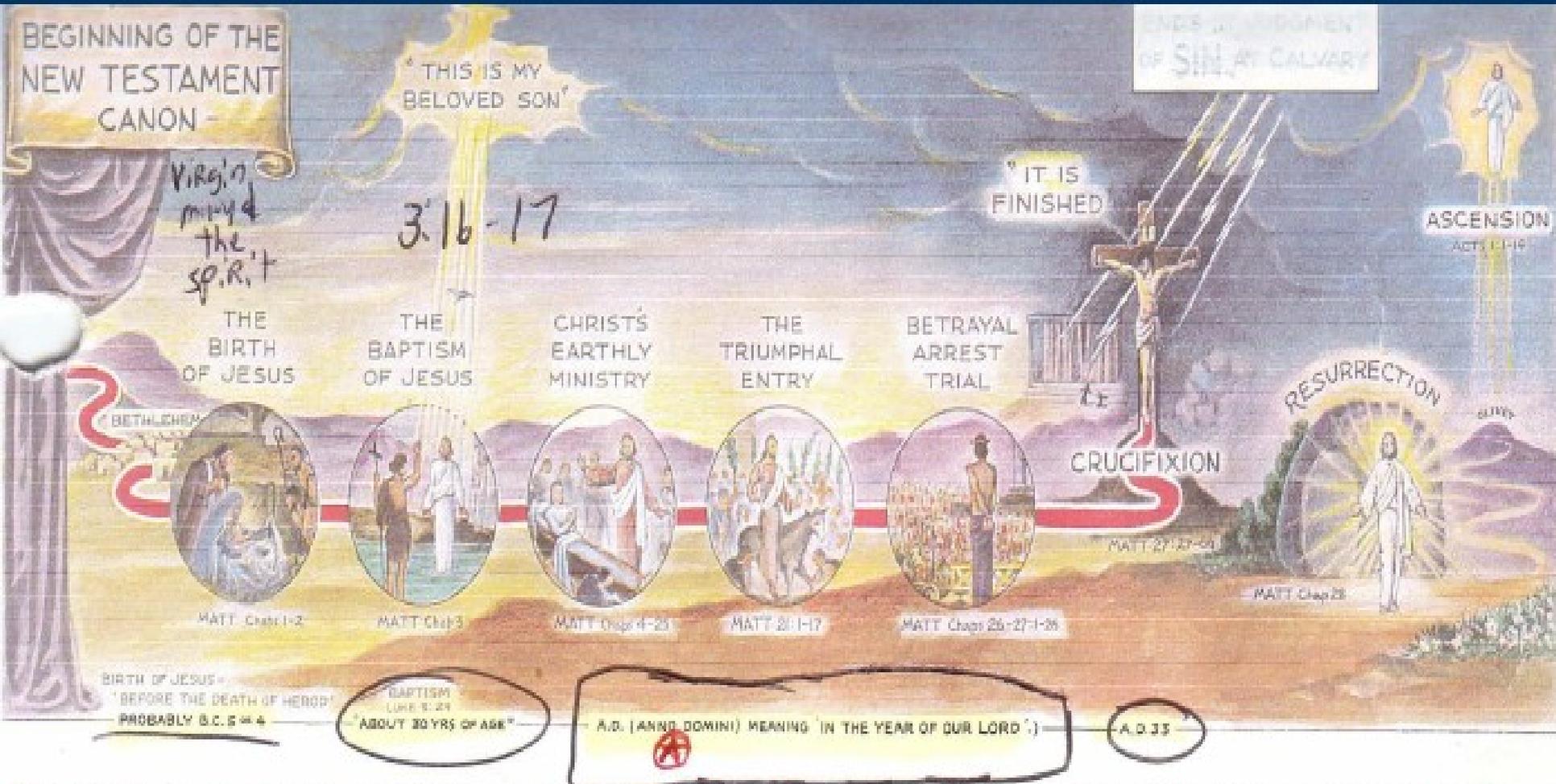
# Remember The BIBLE is a LIBRARY of 66 Books.





# PURPOSE OF THIS LESSON:-

To set forth the distinctive pattern of the family of God that Jesus established.



**BEGINNING OF THE NEW TESTAMENT • BIRTH - MINISTRY - DEATH - RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION OF JESUS CHRIST**

**MATTHEW • MARK • LUKE • JOHN • ACTS 1:1-11**

To show how the **family / body/ assembly / kingdom of Jesus Christ** consists of **every saved person** on earth.

**To point out that the authority of:-**  
**How** we become part of that family.  
**What** that family looks like and lives by.  
**How** it is governed **is found**  
**only in the New Testament.**

**To show that only by accepting  
God's grace on His terms,  
by accepting that Jesus  
is God in human form.**

**That through Jesus death burial and  
resurrection Jesus paid the price for our sins**

**This gives us the opportunity  
of Salvation through Jesus precious blood  
and if we accept this offer on His terms  
we become part of His family/ body/ assembly**

## **SYNOPSIS.**

**Jesus body** was removed from the cross by friends and they **buried** Him.

**On the third day** He rose from the grave. After being **seen many times** by his disciples

**Jesus had told His apostles** that after His death He would send the **Holy Spirit** to **guide them into all truth.**

**The New Testament** was written by the hands of disciples as they were **inspired by the Holy Spirit.**

## On the **Day of Pentecost** in **Acts 2**

**Peter** proclaimed **the gospel** for the first time and over three thousand people **believed and responded to that message.**

They **repented** of their sins and were **baptized** in water and through this **act of obedience** **Jesus** was able **to wash away their sins** by **His blood** and now having their sins forgiven **they received the gift of the indwelling Holy Spirit.**

In **responding** in the way that they were **told** by **Peter** to respond to the gospel **they were added by God to His family /church/ kingdom.**

**So on the day of Pentecost  
the Lord's family/community/kingdom began  
as Jesus had promised  
that He would build His assembly and give  
Peter the keys of the kingdom. Matt 16:16-18;**

**The complete pattern for establishing  
How we are to become followers of Jesus and  
how the congregations are to grow and be  
organized is found in the New Testament.**

**When we accept and follow  
the teaching of the New Testament  
we will become Christians,  
followers of Jesus as Jesus intended.**



**"THE CHRISTIAN AGE"** bears the name of **Jesus The Christ**, who is its **central theme**.

This age **began** just after Jesus' death and resurrection and **will last until** He returns, then time shall be no more.

When Jesus died He **brought to an end** the **Law of Moses** and established a **New Covenant** by which **we live today**.

**When Christians** meet with other Christians regularly, **worshipping God through Jesus Christ**, as thousands have done each week for generations.

It is seen by them as both a **duty** and a **sacred privilege**.



**How** did this practice get started?  
**What** is the meaning of it?

And **why** is it still so important to Christians?

These are **some of the questions**  
**our present lesson will attempt to answer.**

# FIRST, LET US REVIEW

what we have already studied.  
We recall **the Patriarchal Age**,  
the first period of Bible history.

The image is a composite. On the left, there is a photograph of a man with long dark hair, shirtless, looking slightly to the right. On the right, there is a dark, somewhat blurry image of a person in a white garment, possibly a religious figure, standing in a dimly lit setting. In the center, a purple rectangular box contains a list of biblical events in white, bold, uppercase letters.

CREATION  
GARDEN of EDEN  
SACRIFICE FOR SIN  
WICKEDNESS  
THE FLOOD  
ABRAHAM & ISAAC  
JACOB & JOSEPH  
JOSEPH IN EGYPT  
MOSES BIRTH  
MOSES FREES ISRAEL

**THEN WE LOOKED AT the MOSAIC AGE,**  
the second period of Bible history.

**This age lasted from the giving  
of the Law of Moses on Mount Sinai  
until after Christ died on the cross.**



**Let us notice from this chart the highlights of the Christian age, the third and last Bible age. It began with the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus ends when He returns**



**Kingdom Established  
4 Things Necessary  
To make up a kingdom  
Blessings Within  
Gods Pattern  
Unity / organization  
Names for the redeemed  
Rule of Faith  
Worship / Membership  
Mission**



**The Gospel came by Christ Rom 1:16**

**We will see GOD'S SPIRITUAL KINGDOM  
or Community established;**

**Four things necessary to make up a kingdom;**

**Blessings within  
the ASSEMBLY or KINGDOM;  
God's pattern for His community**

**The organization,  
God's names for the redeemed,  
The rule of faith, the worship,  
The membership, and the mission  
of HIS BODY on earth.**

**First**, let us study about  
**the establishment** of His BODY.

**BEFORE JESUS DIED** He told the  
disciples much about **HIS BODY**  
or **KINGDOM** which was soon to come.

He taught them that **the foundation**  
of HIS COMMUNITY is the truth  
that **Jesus is the Son of God.**

On one occasion **Jesus** asked  
the disciples to tell Him who the people  
of the world thought He was.

**They answered, "Some say that you are John the Baptist; some Elias; and others, Jeremiah, or one of the (Old Testament) prophets."  
(Matthew 16:13-14;)**

**Then Jesus asked them,  
"But who do you say that I am?"**

**Peter answered**  
**“You are THE CHRIST,**  
**the Son of the living God.”**



**Jesus commended Peter** for accepting the evidence of God and not the opinions of men concerning His identity.

Then He said, "You are Peter, and upon **this rock** I will **build my assembly.**"  
(Matthew 16:18;)

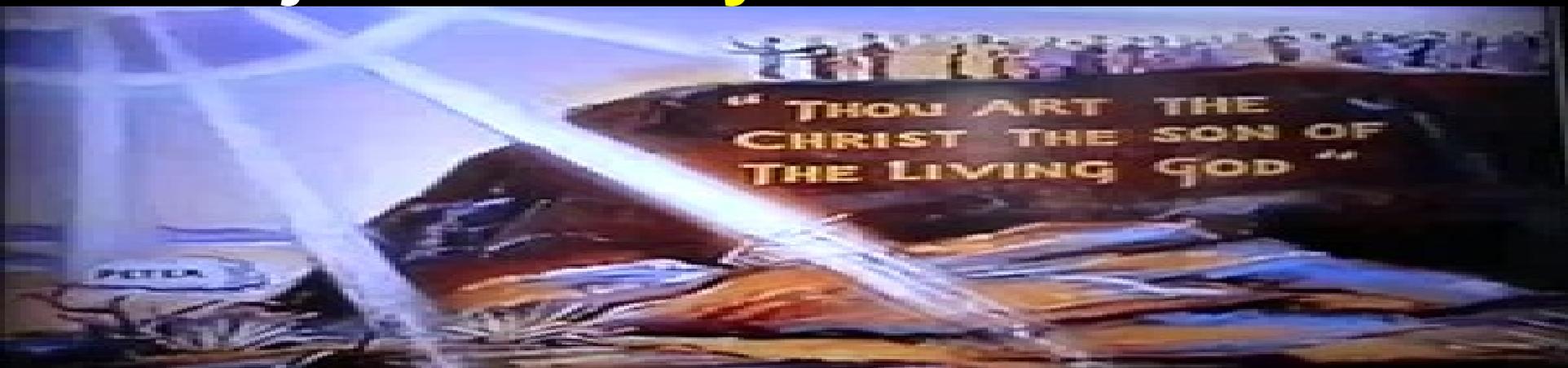
From this passage some get the mistaken idea that **THE ASSEMBLY** was built on Peter instead of Christ.

However, the apostle Paul plainly taught, "**For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.**" (1 Corinthians 3:11;)

Actually, the Greek word for "**Peter**" means **a small, movable stone**, but the "**rock**" that Jesus referred to is a **firm solid rock ledge that cannot be moved**.

The rock upon which **THE ASSEMBLY** is built is that **Jesus is the Son of God**.

This is the confession **Peter** had just **made by divine revelation**.



**LATER** but **BEFORE HIS CRUCIFIXION**  
**Jesus** told His disciples, "There be **some**  
**standing here, which shall not die,**  
**till they have seen the kingdom**  
**of God come with power."** (Mark 9:1;)



Since **John the Baptist** was already **dead** when Jesus gave this promise, we know that **John did not begin THE CHURCH**, nor was he a member of it.

We learn from this promise that **THE KINGDOM** and the **CHURCH** had not yet been established.

Rather it was to come "**with power**" before some of these very disciples died.

*Mark 6:14-29; Lk 24:46;*

# **SOON AFTER MAKING THIS PROMISE** ***Jesus was crucified.***

On that same day Jesus' disciples removed His body from the cross and carefully **laid it in the tomb of a friend.** This had been **prophesied** about 750 years earlier by **Isaiah.**



**A huge stone sealed the tomb** and Roman guards were stationed there lest someone should steal the body and claim that Jesus was raised from the dead.  
John 19:38-42; Isaiah 53:9; Matthew 27:59-66;



**BUT EVEN DEATH ITSELF  
could not hold God's Son.**

**Early on Sunday morning  
the disciples found the tomb empty.**



The **greatest event** of all history had taken place.  
**Christ broke the bonds of death**  
to become **our living Saviour.**

Since Christ had foretold that He would  
rise from the dead,' this great miracle  
**proved Him to be the very Son of God.**

The fear of death has always plagued mankind, but  
**Christ has opened the gates of death,** and promised  
that all the dead shall be raised when He returns.  
Luke 24:1-7; Mark 8:31; Rom 1:4; Hebrews 2:14-15;

***FOLLOWING HIS RESURRECTION, Jesus appeared frequently to His disciples and told them more about His approaching SPIRITUAL KINGDOM.***

**He commissioned them to preach to the whole world that He had died for their sins and to bring them back into a relationship with God.**



On Mount Olivet, **just before His ascension,**  
Jesus blessed the disciples  
and charged them **to wait in Jerusalem**  
for **the coming of the Holy Spirit.**

They would **receive special power**  
to help them **convince the world**  
that **the Saviour**  
**had actually died for their sins.**

**Acts 1:1-8;**

**SUDDENLY THE LORD** began to ascend into heaven.  
They watched Him until  
**He disappeared into the clouds.**

Having died for man's sin, **Jesus** ascended  
to heaven to **sit at the right hand of Almighty God**  
**to rule and reign.**



**All things were now ready for the coming  
of THE ASSEMBLY or KINGDOM  
over which Jesus would rule as king.**

**In keeping with Jesus' instruction,  
the apostles returned joyously to Jerusalem.  
Acts 1:9-12;**



**Jesus shows up at the appointed time  
His message, his mission, his ministry,  
The Temple, Temptation of Jesus.**

**Satan and Jesus  
Adam and Jesus Christ  
Why the Virgin Mary  
Christ the Centre and Heart of the Bible.**

**Jesus (Who He is?)      Jesus (What He did)  
Jesus (What He said)  
How Jesus is Different from all the others?**

**Enoch, Elijah and Moses (I thought they died)  
The Cross      The Resurrection  
What is the New Covenant?      When did it start?**

**TEN DAYS AFTER THE ASCENSION,**  
Jesus sent the Holy Spirit upon the apostles,  
accompanied by the sound from heaven  
like a violent wind which filled the whole building.

**Forked tongues, like fire,**  
were seen on each of the apostles.

**Filled with the Holy Spirit,**  
the apostles began to speak miraculously in  
different languages which they had never studied.



**Thousands of Jews from all over the world  
were visiting in Jerusalem for the  
Day of the Jewish feast of Pentecost.  
Acts 1:1-4; Acts 2:5;**



# AS NEWS OF THESE MIRACLES

spread, thousands of the Jews visiting in Jerusalem began crowding together.

They were amazed that **they could hear and understand each in his own language.**

**Peter** gained the crowd's attention and **told them about Christ**, the promised Messiah, a descendant of David and a teacher approved of God;



**How He was wrongfully put to death, but was raised from the dead; that He ascended to heaven where He is now exalted at the right hand of God as both Lord and Christ.**



**Three thousand people  
turned from Judaism to Christ  
and were baptized for the remission of sins  
and received the gift of the Holy Spirit  
and God added them to His Family.**



**So it was that the New Community  
of Christ's called out people or kingdom  
had its beginning with great power  
as Jesus had promised.**

**Acts 2:5-47;**

**FOUR THINGS** are necessary  
to the existence of any kingdom,  
whether it be **physical or spiritual.**

**Kingdom Established**

**4 Things Necessary**

**for any kingdom**

**Blessings Within**

**Gods Pattern**

**Unity**

**Organization**

**Gods Names**

**Rule of Faith**

**Worship**

**Membership**

**Mission**

Since we have seen how  
**THE LORD'S KINGDOM** began,  
we can now learn whether it is  
a **physical** or **spiritual kingdom**  
by considering these four vital components.

**A kingdom founded on physical bases  
is a physical kingdom.**



**But CHRIST'S COMMUNITY  
founded on spiritual bases  
Is a SPIRITUAL KINGDOM.**



We need to point out to our friends  
the **four things necessary** to constitute a kingdom:

There must be  
**A KING, a TERRITORY, SUBJECTS** and **A LAW.**

4 THINGS NECESSARY TO  
CONSTITUTE A KINGDOM

A King

A Territory

Subjects

A Law

4 THINGS NECESSARY TO  
CONSTITUTE A KINGDOM

A King  
A Territory  
Subjects  
A Law

No kingdom, not even the Lord's,  
could exist if any one of these is missing.

**Jesus TAUGHT** that all of these components  
in **HIS KINGDOM** are of a **SPIRITUAL** nature.

**WHEN THE JEWS**  
**had delivered Jesus to Pilate to be crucified.**

**Jesus explained,**  
**“My Kingdom is NOT of this world.”**  
**(John 18:36;)**



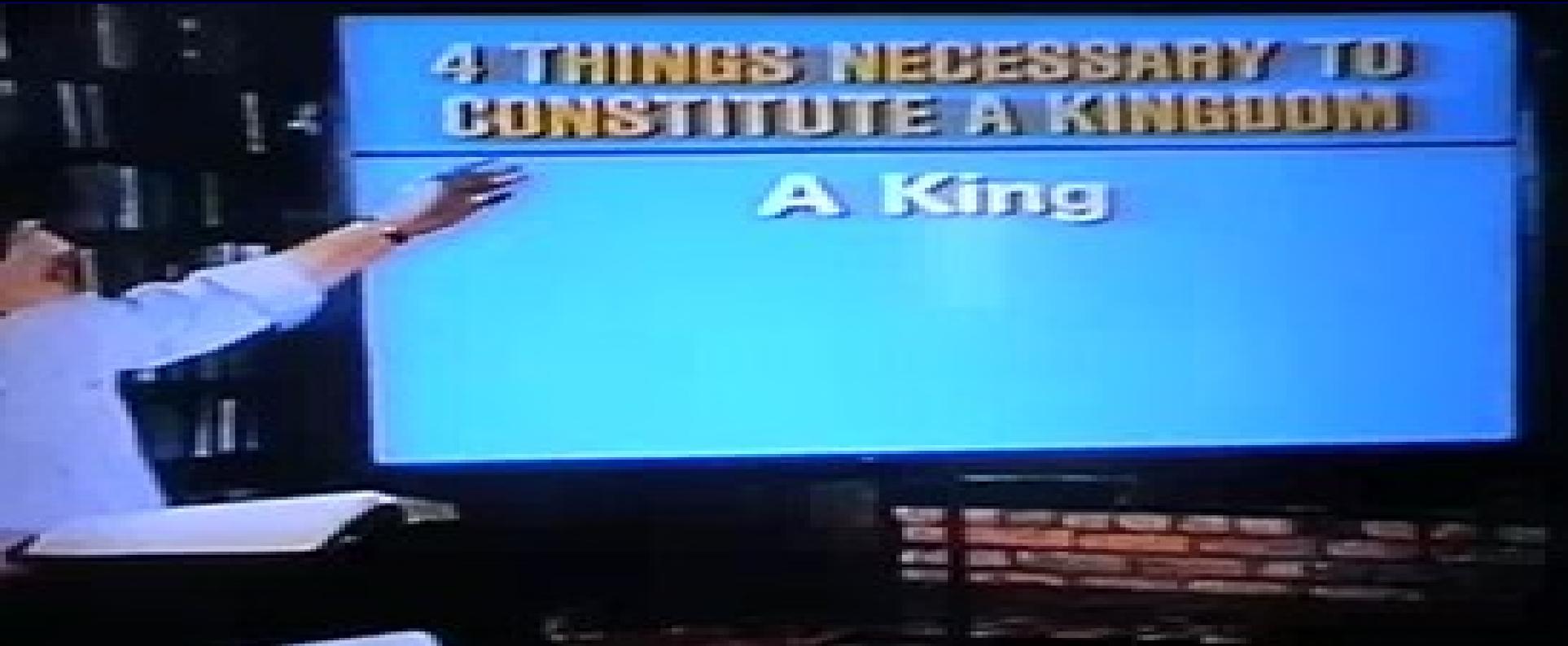
The **TRUE KINGDOM** was to be  
a **SPIRITUAL KINGDOM**  
having **no earthly head or headquarters.**

Rather, **CHRIST'S COMMUNITY** would have  
**A SPIRITUAL HEAD, SPIRITUAL TERRITORY,**  
**SPIRITUAL SUBJECTS** and a **SPIRITUAL LAW.**



**LET US LOOK and LEARN**, one at a time,  
about these spiritual components making up  
**CHRIST'S BODY, His FAMILY, the CHURCH.**

**Who does the Bible say is the head or king  
of this SPIRITUAL KINGDOM?**



**REMEMBER** what the angel Gabriel said to Mary when he announced that Jesus would be born:

**"He shall reign over the House of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end."  
(Luke 1:33).**



**Jesus Christ** is STILL the absolute monarch over the **SPIRITUAL NATION** of God's people today."

"For **He must reign**, till he hath put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. 1 Corinthians 15:25-26;



# WHAT TERRITORY IS INCLUDED in this KINGDOM?

Since **Jesus** said,  
"My Kingdom is **NOT** of this world."  
(**John 18:36**)

We conclude that **His rule**  
does not involve  
the **control** of **land areas**.  
**WHERE**, then, does **Jesus** rule?



**THIS QUESTION CANNOT BE ANSWERED  
by pointing to a spot on the globe.**

Since Jesus said,  
**"The Kingdom of God is WITHIN you."**  
(Luke 17:21;)



**We know that His rule is WITHIN  
our HEARTS WHEREVER we may be.**

**The territory of HIS KINGDOM, then,  
is a Spiritual territory and cannot be determined  
by geographical areas or political boundaries.**

**THE KINGDOM OF GOD or THE CHURCH  
is anywhere we give our allegiance to Christ.  
God wants to rule in the hearts of all people**

# **BUT WHO ARE THE SUBJECTS in GOD'S KINGDOM?**

**Since the KINGDOM OF GOD  
and the kingdom of Satan  
are both universal.**

**EVERY LIVING PERSON  
is a subject in one or the other.**

**THE SUBJECTS OF GOD'S SPIRITUAL Kingdom**  
are those from among all nations  
who **submit their lives in complete obedience**  
to **Jesus as their King and Master.**

4 THINGS NECESSARY TO  
CONSTITUTE A KINGDOM

A King

A Territory

Subjects

The same God who has made all nations and races recognizes as valid only **one religion** for all.

The **apostles** were continually converting people from Judaism as well as other religions that they might have a relationship with the Lord **in the ONE BODY, HIS COMMUNITY.**

This indicates that God requires every man,  
regardless of race, **to be united**  
and to serve Christ as Master  
in **HIS ONE KINGDOM, THE COMMUNITY,**  
for which Jesus gave His life.



**“Wherefore God also  
has highly exalted him,  
and given Him a name  
which is above every name:”**

**“That at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bow,  
of things in heaven, and things in earth,  
and things under the earth;”**

**“And that every tongue  
should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.”**

**Philippians 2:9-11;**

**FINALLY, WE MUST ASK,  
"What body of LAW governs the citizens of  
GOD'S SPIRITUAL KINGDOM?"**

**Has God left man free to legislate  
his own church rules?**

**When different groups of men write their own  
religious laws, often these become the basis  
and sometimes the cause of the religious  
factions, divisions and denominations?"**

**GOD** has provided the **New Testament** as His **exclusive law** for citizens of **CHRIST'S KINGDOM**.

The apostle Paul refers to it as the **Law of the Spirit of life**.

4 THINGS NECESSARY TO  
CONSTITUTE A KINGDOM

A King

A Territory

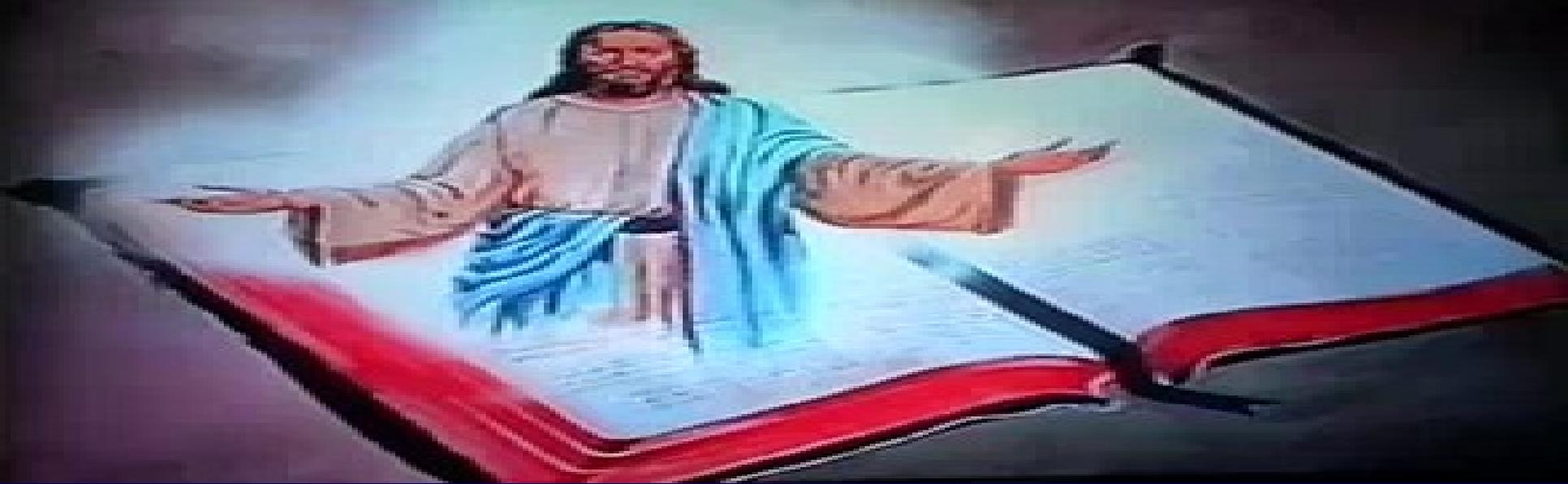
Subjects

A Law

**Since God's Word is truth,  
that which disagrees  
with the Bible is false.**

**The New Testament teaches  
that the basic reason for following  
the Law of Christ is our love for Christ.**

**In the apostles' day, all people who submitted  
through love to God's laws as revealed in the  
New Testament were UNITED with the apostles  
in the ONE BODY the ONE FAMILY the CHURCH.**



3. Endeavouring to keep **the unity of the Spirit** in the bond of peace.
4. There is **one body**, and **one Spirit**, even as you are **called in one hope** of your calling;
5. **One Lord, one faith, one baptism,**
6. **One God and Father of all,** who is above all, and through all, and in you all. Ephesians 4:3-6;

# CONCERNING THE LAW OF GOD, the apostle Paul said:-

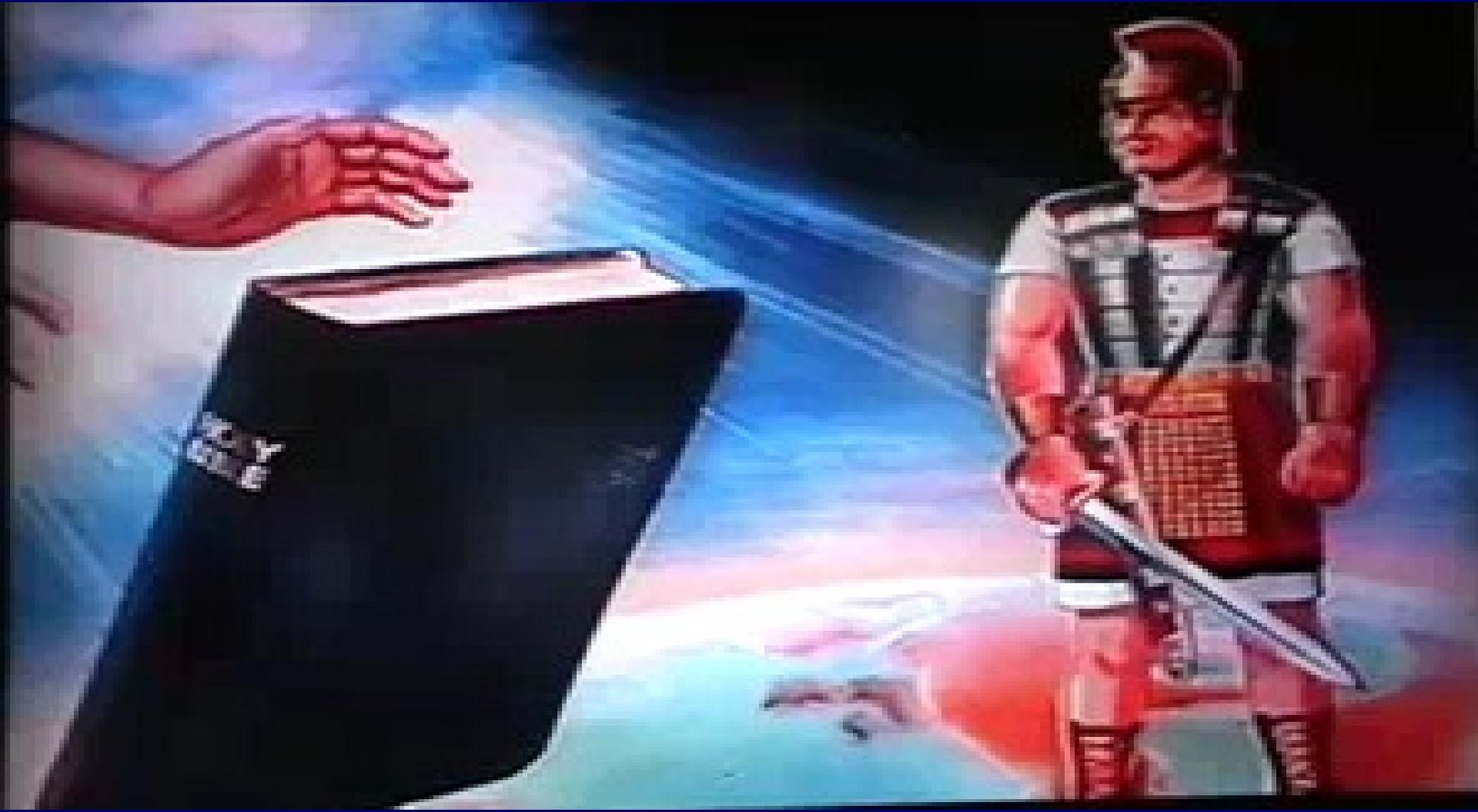
"All scripture is given by inspiration of God,  
and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof,  
for correction, for instruction in righteousness:  
It is God's way of making us well prepared at  
every point, fully equipped to do good to everyone."  
(2 Timothy 3:16-17;)

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for  
teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in  
righteousness, so that the servant of God may be  
thoroughly equipped for every good work.

**2 Timothy 3:16-17**

13 And as it is written, blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter in by the gates into the city.  
14 And as it is written, he that doeth his commandments shall not see death. And as it is written, blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter in by the gates into the city.  
15 That whosoever believeth in the Son of man, that shall not perish, but have everlasting life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent his Son into the world, that he should save the world.  
16 For God gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent his Son into the world, that he should save the world.

Since **the Bible is complete and sufficient**, we readily understand that **religious traditions and man made religious laws** not only are **unnecessary** but are **strictly forbidden**.



**LIKE SENTRIES GUARDING  
GOD'S PRECIOUS LAW.**

**Numerous passages throughout  
the Bible warn man not to tamper  
with God's written word.**

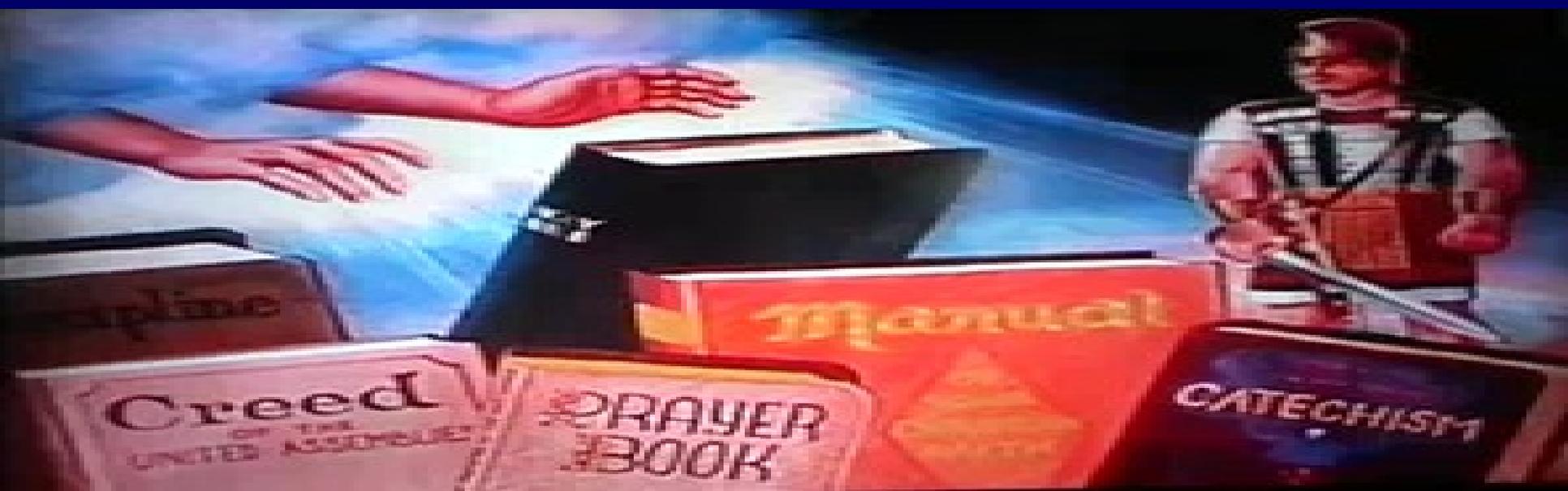
**Though using different words,  
all these passages  
give the same warning.**

**ALL THESE WARNINGS say,**  
**“You shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall you diminish aught from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you.”** (Deuteronomy 4:2;)



The same warning is repeated  
in Proverbs 30:6; and in Revelation 22:18-19;

But in spite of God's grave warning  
not to **"add to"** or **"take from"** the Bible,  
**many have gone against His teaching** and  
accepted the religious laws and traditions  
conceived, written and spoken by mere men.



**This attitude is the soil from which present day denominationalism and division have sprung.**

**“This people honour me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far, far away from me;**

**Their worship is worthless,  
for they teach their man-made laws  
instead of those from God.”**

**Matt 15:8-9;**

# REMEMBER THAT CHRIST'S KINGDOM, HIS COMMUNITY, THE CHURCH:-

Consists of Christ as king,  
the heart of every Christian as the territory,  
every obedient believer as a subject

And the **New Testament**  
as the **ONLY** source of spiritual authority  
for our obedience and worship today.

4 THINGS NECESSARY TO  
CONSTITUTE A KINGDOM

A King  
A Territory  
Subjects  
A Law



We can readily see that **CHRIST'S KINGDOM** is not **"of this world"** but, is **spiritual** in nature.

**SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS**  
**within the KINGDOM OF CHRIST**  
**can be enjoyed only**  
**by THOSE within HIS KINGDOM.**



**Blessings Within  
Gods Pattern  
Unity  
Organization  
Gods Names  
Rule of Faith  
Worship  
Membership  
Mission**

Everyone realizes that a citizen  
of any kingdom enjoys certain privileges  
which ought to be denied  
to those outside the kingdom.

# Blessings For The Saved

KINGDOM – Church – Body – Family



**BLESSINGS FOR THE SAVED** are related in **the New Testament** to **certain Bible terms** for God's people.

The Bible refers to God's people by terms such as  
**"THE KINGDOM,"** **"THE ASSEMBLY,"**  
**"THE BODY,"** and **"THE FAMILY."**

**Different terms** are used  
to stress **different aspects** but **all of them**  
**emphasize God's blessings** for the saved.

**For example, the Bible uses the term "Kingdom." Christ is the Spiritual King.**

**The apostle Paul wrote of this in Colossians 1:13-14; "God has delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son: in whom we have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins."**

**Forgiveness of sins through Jesus' blood delivers one from the power of darkness and moves us into the KINGDOM OF GOD.**

**Those within THE KINGDOM may continually enjoy the forgiveness of sin and other spiritual blessings found only in God's Son.**

# **THIS KINGDOM** is also called **"THE ASSEMBLY."**

The original Greek word **"ekklesia"** means  
**"those called out," "an assembly"**  
or **"congregation."**

God calls us through the gospel to be  
separated from the world and to be bound  
together with others in spiritual union.

**Christ is the builder** in keeping with His  
promise, **". . . Upon this rock I will build  
my assembly. . . "** (Matthew 16:16-18;)

**From the day His FAMILY, His KINGDOM  
the ASSEMBLY was first established,  
God has been adding  
to HIS ASSEMBLY  
all those who are saved by Jesus' blood.**

**Blessings For The Saved  
Kingdom – Assembly – Body - Family**



**THE EARLY CHRISTIANS** were "Praising God,  
and having favour with all the people.  
And the Lord added to the assembly daily  
such as should be saved" (Acts 2:47;)

At the same time as person is cleansed  
of all past sin through Jesus' blood,  
God also numbers him among His children  
In His FAMILY, the ASSEMBLY, the  
KINGDOM.

Therefore it is **FALSE** to believe a person can **first be saved** and then **LATER** become a member of **THE ASSEMBLY, GOD'S FAMILY**



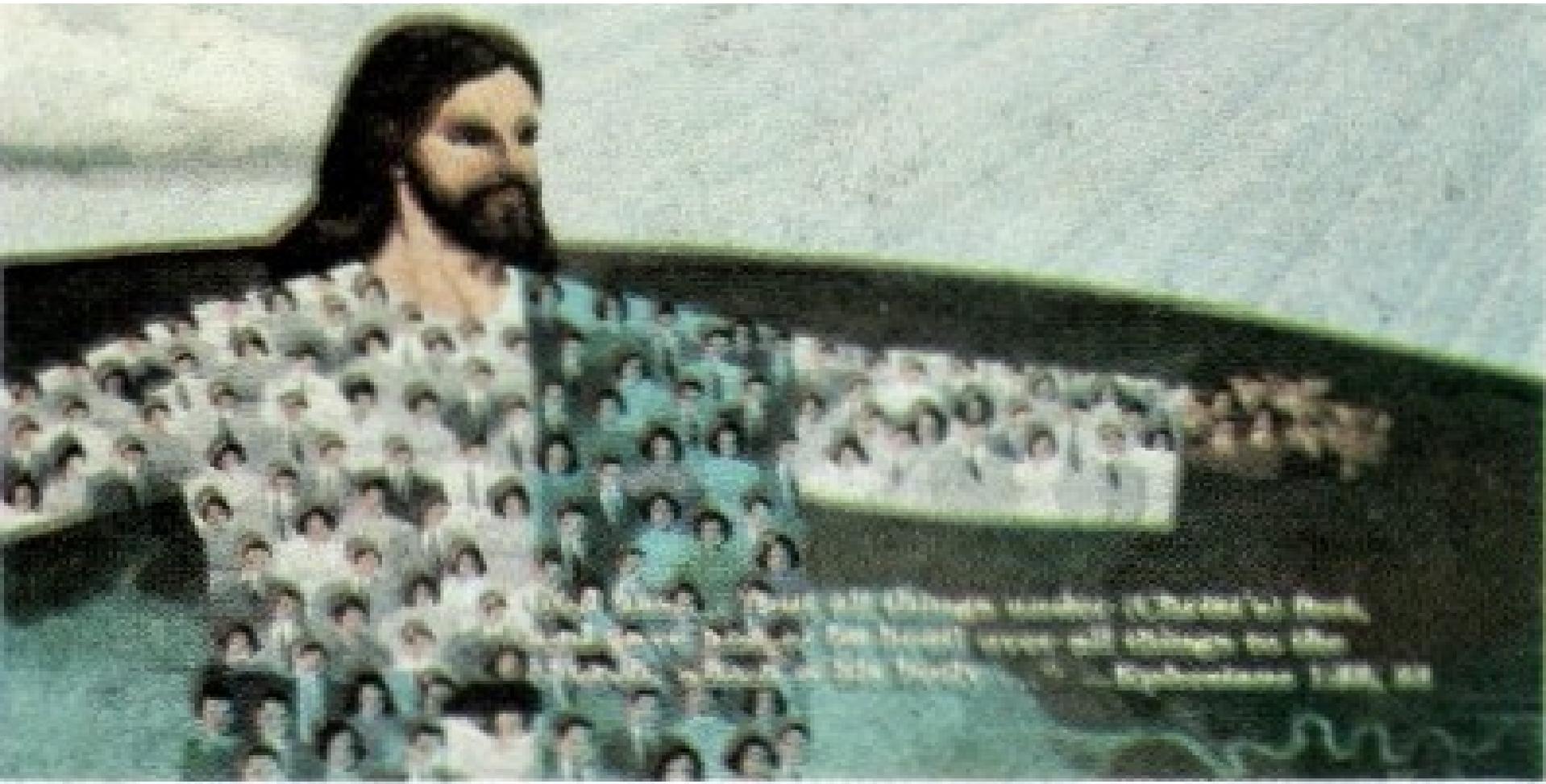
It is also **FALSE** to believe a person  
**can be saved** and be part of the family of God  
**WITHOUT** identifying  
with the **BLOOD** of **CHRIST**.

It is also **FALSE** to believe  
that a person can be saved  
yet have **no connection** or **identification**  
with the **Body of Christ**, the family of God.

Because **at the same time** a person is **saved**  
he is **ADDED** BY GOD TO, and  
**becomes** a **MEMBER OF**, **the ASSEMBLY**.

**THE ASSEMBLY OR KINGDOM** is also referred to as the **"BODY OF CHRIST."**

**Blessings For The Saved  
Kingdom – Assembly –Body - Family**



**In comparing THE ASSEMBLY  
to the physical body, we realize that,  
while there are many members,  
there can be only one head for the one body.**

**Ephesians 1:22-23; declares that God has  
" . . . put all things under Christ's feet,  
and gave Him to be head over all things  
to the assembly, which is His body . . . "**

Also, just as **the blood** in our **physical bodies** protects us against disease and brings healing to wounds,

The **blood of Jesus** is present in **HIS SPIRITUAL BODY, THE ASSEMBLY,** to **cleanse** and **heal our souls** continually.

**Salvation comes only through Jesus,**  
He has ordained that **all those**  
who receive this blessing  
**are members of HIS BODY, THE ASSEMBLY.**

## JUST BEFORE PAUL

made his tearful departure from the elders  
of the Ephesian congregation,  
**he warned them,**



“Take heed unto yourselves, and to all the flock,  
in which the Holy Spirit has made you elders,  
to **feed the assembly of the Lord,** which He has  
**purchased with His own blood.**” (Acts 20:28).

**Since Christ purchased THE ASSEMBLY  
with His own blood,  
a person must be in THE ASSEMBLY  
and remain faithful to Christ  
in order to enjoy the blessing of salvation  
which comes only through Jesus' blood.**

**THE CALLED OUT ARE SPOKEN OF**

as **"God's Family"** or **"household"**

for it is made up of those who have been **born again** and are therefore **children of God.**

**Blessings For The Saved  
Kingdom – Assembly – Body - Family**



The apostle Paul has said,  
“... We are **children of God:** and if children,  
then heirs: heirs of God, and **joint-heirs  
with Christ.**” (Romans 8:16-17;)

In this SPIRITUAL FAMILY **Christ is the “elder brother”** and **God is the only Father.**

The apostle Paul has said,  
". . . We are **children of God:** and if children,  
then heirs: heirs of God, and **joint-heirs  
with Christ.**" (Romans 8:16-17;)

**In this SPIRITUAL FAMILY Christ is the  
“elder brother” and God is the only Father.**

**This is one reason why Jesus said:-**

**“Call no man your [spiritual] father  
upon the earth:**

**for one is your Father, which is in heaven.”**

**(Matthew 23:9;)**

**Only those who are born again  
are heirs of eternal life.**

**Those outside God's FAMILY  
are still LOST in sin.**

**AS WE THOUGHTFULLY consider  
the blessings God has reserved  
for those in His FAMILY - KINGDOM.**



**We need to be able to identify **GOD'S FAMILY** on earth today so that we can be sure of enjoying these divine blessings.**

**We have learned, just as thousands of others have, that **God has recorded the only perfect and complete description of CHRIST'S BODY, HIS FAMILY** in the pages of **the New Testament.****

**DURING THE FIRST CENTURY of God's Family,  
God was guiding inspired writers  
by the Holy Spirit to record accurately  
all of His instructions for His children.**



**God had promised  
that there would be no end  
to CHRIST'S KINGDOM.**

**Therefore He provided  
protection from religious error  
through the pages of Scripture.**

**God expected His children  
throughout all generations  
to conform to this same divine pattern.**

As these **inspired writings**  
appeared one by one,  
**THE EARLY CHURCH** appealed to them  
as **FINAL** religious **AUTHORITY**.

**The New Testament Scriptures** containing  
**God's perfect pattern for THE CHURCH**  
were **completed** and **circulated among**  
**the congregations** hundreds of years before  
the invention of modern printing methods.

' 2 Peter 1:15, 16, 21; Colossians 4:16.

**“And I shall take great care that after my own departure **you will still have a means to recall these things to mind.** When we told you about the power and coming of Jesus Christ, our Lord, **we were not following clever myths.****

**No, we saw His greatness!**

**I was there on the holy mountain when He shone out with honour given him by God His Father; **I heard** that glorious, majestic voice calling down from heaven, saying,**

**“This is my much-loved Son;  
I am well pleased with him.”**

**2 Peter 1:15-17;**



**“v20 For no prophecy recorded in Scripture was ever thought up by the prophet himself. It was the Holy Spirit within these godly men who gave them true messages from God. 21 because prophecy never came from what man wanted. No, those men spoke from God while they were being influenced by the Holy Spirit.”**

**“After this letter has been read to all of you, see that it is read to the congregation in Laodicea.**

**Then you can read the letter which they received.”**

**2 Pet 1:20-21; Colossians 4:16;**

**EVEN BACK IN MOSES' DAY,  
centuries before THE ASSEMBLY,  
God's word was to be the final authority.**



Just as **God warned Moses to follow His divine plan**  
in building the **Old Testament Tabernacle**,  
He expects us today **to follow His divine pattern**  
given in **the New Testament for HIS ASSEMBLY.**

Anywhere in the world when a group of  
people **conform to God's blueprint for His**  
**Called out Ones**, this group would **not be**  
**seen as a new religious group but as a**  
**continuation**  
**of the ORIGINAL FAMILY of Jesus Christ.**

Hebrews 8:5-6;

**v5 They worship which is only a copy of what is in heaven. It is not the original. When Moses was about to build the holy tent, God warned him: “Be careful! You must make everything like the pattern which I showed you on the mountain.”**

**v6 But now has He obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also He is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.**

**Hebrews 8:5-6;**

**Visualized Bible Study  
Series Part 3-a  
The Christian Age.**

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**Next in the series:-  
Part 3-b -The Christian Age.**